

CLAIM SUPPORT CHART

Claim Element	Spec. 112 Support
19. A system for facilitating electronic commerce transactions comprising:	The consignment node network provides a system for facilitating electronic commerce transaction, which has a network connection to the Internet. See generally, the Summary of The Invention section of the Application at page 2, line 1 – page 4, line 21.
means for interfacing a plurality of <u>Internet</u> [data packet network] users;	Figure 1 depicts a network connection card (26). The written description provides that “[t]he consignment node may be networked via TCP/IP and the internet or a private TCP/IP network or X.25 private or public network or service providers network of ISDN, ATM and the like. It is understood, that a consignment node may support a plurality of protocols simultaneously. Moreover, it is understood that the participant interface application program may execute on a wide variety of platforms such as PC's MAC's, Power PC's, workstations, cable set-top boxes, video game hardware and the like and are within the scope of the present invention.” [Page 13, line 22 – page 14, line 2] See also Figure 12, which depicts a WWW Page Server (810) and WWW to Database Map module (808). The written description provides that “[a] WWW to database mapping 808 module is commercially available from Expertelligence, Inc., Santa Barbara, CA at (805) 982-2558. Such a mapping module may map an ODBC database such as Microsoft Access to a www page.” See page 15, line 9 – page 17, line 9 for a detailed discussion of protocol support and the Downloadable Interface Program (DIP).
<u>an accounts database for maintaining accounts;</u> means for tracking account information for said plurality of <u>Internet</u> [data packet network] users <u>in said accounts database;</u>	Figure 12 depicts an accounts database (824). The accounts database is connected via a transaction processor (812) to the data packet network users with the www page server (810). The market maker computer 800 may use an account 824 database to track payments due to posting terminal 700 users. [Page 34, lines 15-16]

<p>means for returning interest on positive balances in said accounts of said plurality of <u>Internet</u> [data packet network] users; and</p>	<p>“[P]articipant accounts may be tracked at the market maker computer 800. Moreover, it is understood that account surpluses may be acquired by participants speculation in collectable goods may be invested in highly liquid and safe assets such as U.S. Treasury bills to provide and interest bearing accounting for positive cash balances. This provides an incentive, or at least a hedge against inflation, for a participant to keep funds within the collectible market place and to use these funds to speculate in the collectible market. By using funds available at the market maker computer 800 participants can reduce the transaction costs associated with credit cards and other transaction clearing means and optimize the participants return on price movements in the buyer and selling of collectable goods.” [Page 35, lines 9-19]</p>
<p>means for deducting from said accounts from said plurality of <u>Internet</u> [data packet network] users in response to accepted offers made by said plurality of <u>Internet</u> [data packet network] users.</p>	<p>One of the functions of market maker computer is to "provide a means to process transactions from participants by clearing a transaction and transferring legal title to the good." [Page 34, lines 11-13] Figure 12 depicts a transaction processor 812. Figure 7 depicts a functional block diagram of a transfer ownership routine that may be used in the transaction processor. "Figure 7 shows the transfer ownership routine 400 that may be used to transfer ownership of goods and collectibles in the consignment node. The transfer ownership sub-routine may be called from several consignment node modes and processes to effect the transfer of legal ownership." [Page 22, lines 1-4] It is understood that a consignment node user may have established a credit or deposit account for the participant from past sales or the transfer of funds and the verify step 402 may connect the participant to the account. The clear charge 404 step is used to clear the participant consignment node transaction." [Page 22, lines 10-14]</p>

The Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiments section of the written description provides that the transfer of ownership routine, e.g., Fig. 7 may be called at the end of an ascending bid auction process, in the offer/counter – offer virtual market mode or in the local store sales mode. See Figures 4, 8 and 9 and attendant written description generally. More specifically, the written description provides that:

“FIG. 4 shows the logical block flow diagram of the processes the consignment node may take to execute an auction.” [Page 18, lines 22-23] If the highest bid is greater than the reserve price the consignment node auction process posts sold! For xxx amount to the auction participants and calls the transfer ownership subroutine 270, discussed further below [FIG. 7] and transfers the ownership of the good.” [Page 19, lines 12-15]

“FIG. 8 shows the consignment node routine that may be used to establish a virtual market.” [Page 23, lines 24-25] [D]uring the browse loop 458, 460, 462 a participant may elect to buy or make an offer on a good and may invoke the transfer ownership routine, see FIG. 7, to effect the transfer of a good's ownership. It is also understood that a participant may make an offer on a good below the asking (or offered) price.” [Page 24, lines 13-17] “The good[s] owner may the accept the counter offer or reject. [A] participant counter-offer may be mode subject to an acceptance before date.” [Page 24, lines 19-20] And “a participant may establish a ‘buy at’ or ‘sell at’ price/quantity for any good in the market.” [Page 24, lines 20-22]

“FIG. 9 shows a logical flow diagram of the process that may be use[d] to transact the transfer of ownership of goods on a consignment node at the store where a

	consignments node may be located." [Page 24, lines 23-25] "It is important to note that a good, while on display at a consignment node user's shop may have transferred ownership and changed price via network participants." [Page 25, lines 5-7] "The consignment node may process a store customer purchase request by calling the appropriate sub-routine to transfer ownership, see FIG. 7, of the good." [Page 25, lines 8-11]
20. The system of claim 19 wherein interest <u>returned</u> [paid] on said accounts is <u>paid at least in part</u> from investment <u>returns from</u> [in] U.S. treasury notes.	"It is understood that participant account may be tracked at the market maker computer 800. Moreover, it is understood that account surpluses may be acquired by participants speculating in collectable goods may be invested in highly liquid and safe assets such as U.S. treasury bills to provide an[d] interesting bearing accounting for positive cash balances. This provides and incentive, or at least a hedge against inflation, for a participant to keep funds within the collectible market place and to use these funds to speculate in the collectible market. By using funds available at the market maker computer 800 participants can reduce the transaction costs associated with credit cards and other transaction clearing means and optimize the participants' return on price movements in the buying and selling of collectable goods." [Page 35, lines 9-19]
21. The system of claim 19 further comprising: means for receiving offers from said plurality of <u>Internet users</u> [data packet network participants]; and	Offers are received via the auction process, the offer/counter-offer process or the 'buy at' process as discussed above. See generally, the data record creation process for items posted for sale or auction in the system in the Summary of Invention section of the Application. See also, in the Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiment section of the Application Figures 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 12 and 13 and the attendant description in the Application for the system processes in which offers are received by the system. More

	specifically, (1) offers may be received via the Internet from a Downloadable Application Program (DIP), Figure 2, [Page 15, line 24 – page 16, line 22]; (2) via the Internet and a World Wide Web (WWW) interface, Figure 12, [Page 34, lines 1-13]; and (3) Via the Internet and a posting terminal apparatus, Figure 13, [page 27, lines 17-19].
means for associating said offers from said plurality of <u>Internet users</u> [data packet network participants] with said account information.	Fig. 7 provides a computer flow diagram demonstrating the association of offers with participant account information. More specifically, the transfer ownership process is described in detail as: (1) “The first step in the transfer of ownership sub-routine 400 may be to verify a participant purchaser information 402. [Page 22, lines 4-6]; (2) “[A]nd the verify step 402 may connect the participant to the [participant] account. [page 22, lines 10-13]; (3) “The clear charge 404 step is used to clear the participant consignment node transaction [e.g., between the participant accounts]; and (4) these three steps from Fig.7 may be called by the user of the auction process, the offer/counter-offer, ‘buy at’ and ‘sell at’ market process and the local store sale process. See, Figures 4, 8 and 9 as described above.